

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sealable, twist opening container comprising:  
a container body having a closed end, an open end and side walls extending there-  
between, said open end further comprising an outwardly curled flange with a leading edge  
oriented inwardly toward a neck of said container body;  
5 a closure ring mounted on said neck of said container body and comprising an upper  
end, a lower end and engagement means positioned therebetween;  
a flange engagement means positioned on an upper end of said closure ring for  
functionally interconnecting said outwardly curled flange to said closure ring;  
a two piece lid closure comprising a skirt portion and a cap portion operably  
10 positioned within said skirt portion, said skirt portion having a closure means for selectively  
interconnecting said two-piece lid closure to said closure ring and an upwardly oriented  
shoulder, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in one direction said two-piece lid  
closure is brought to a closed and sealed condition, and when said skirt portion is rotated in  
an opposite direction, said two piece lid closure is disengaged from said closure ring as said  
15 upwardly oriented shoulder engages said cap portion, wherein said cap portion is tilted  
during removal. ~~and said twist opening container is brought to an open condition.~~
2. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, further comprising an  
elastomeric sealing material operably interconnected to an inner surface of said cap and  
positioned substantially opposite an upper end of said curled flange.
3. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 2, wherein said elastomeric  
material is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polyvinyl, a polypropylene, an  
acetal and a synthetic material.

4. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said skirt portion closure means comprises at least one thread with a shoulder which sealingly engages said closure ring.

5. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 4, wherein said closure ring expands downwardly when heated, wherein a force between said closure ring and a shoulder of said skirt portion is increased.

6. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said flange engagement means comprises a bulb with a slot positioned therein, said slot sized to operatively receive said leading edge of said outwardly curled flange, wherein said closure ring is impeded from rotational and vertical movement.

7. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein an upper end of said skirt portion further comprises a curled end which functionally opposes an upper end of said container curled flange to provide a flexible sealing engagement therebetween.

8. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said closure ring is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polypropylene, a nylon, a acetal, a synthetic material and combinations therein.

9. (Currently Amended) The twist opening container of Claim 1, further comprising a release tab ~~functionally~~ interconnected to a perimeter edge of said cap portion, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in said opposite direction, said release tab engages a portion of said upwardly oriented shoulders~~skirt portion~~ to facilitate opening of said cap portion by opening one end of said cap portion prior to an opposing end.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said twist opening container is capable of being heated to a temperature of at least about 250°F.

12. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said closure ring is a metallic material integrally interconnected to a portion of said container body.

13. (Original) A method for positioning a one-piece ring closure on a neck of a metallic container, comprising the steps of:

securing said metallic container in a substantially static position;

stretching said one-piece ring closure to increase an internal diameter of said one-piece ring closure;

positioning said one-piece ring closure over said neck of said metallic container; and

releasing said one-piece ring closure onto said neck of said metallic container, wherein an internal surface of said ring closure sealingly engages an external surface of said neck of said metallic container.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, further comprising the step of interconnecting a flange of said container neck to a bulb positioned on an upper portion of said one-piece closure ring, wherein said one piece ring closure is restricted from movement.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said stretching step comprises inserting a closure ring expanding tool into said closure ring and increasing the diameter of said one-piece ring closure.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said one-piece ring closure is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polyvinyl, a polypropylene, an acetal and a synthetic material.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said stretching step comprises applying a tensile force on said one-piece ring closure of at least about 100 lbs.

18. (Currently Amended) A sealable, twist opening metallic container adapted for storing a perishable solid or liquid, comprising:

a container body having a closed end, an open end and side walls extending therebetween, said open end further comprising an outwardly curled flange with a leading edge oriented inwardly toward a neck of said container body;

a non-metallic closure ring mounted on said neck of said container body and comprising an upper end, a lower end and an engagement means positioned therebetween, said engagement means having a substantially circular geometric cross-sectional shape for operably interconnecting said outwardly curled flange to said non-metallic closure ring;

a two piece lid closure comprising a skirt portion and a cap portion operably positioned within said skirt portion, said skirt portion having a closure means for selectively interconnecting said two-piece lid closure to said closure ring, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in one direction said two-piece lid closure is brought to a closed and sealed condition, and when said skirt portion is rotated in an opposite direction, an upwardly oriented shoulder of said skirt portion engages said cap portion to facilitate opening, wherein said two piece lid closure is disengaged from said closure ring and said sealable twist opening metallic container is brought to an open condition.

19. (Original) The twist opening metallic container of claim 18, further comprising an elastomeric sealing material operably interconnected to an inner surface of said cap and positioned substantially opposite an upper end of said curled flange.

20. (Original) The twist opening metallic container, of Claim 19, wherein said elastomeric sealing material is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polypropylene, a nylon, an acetal, a synthetic material, a foam and combinations therein.

21. (Currently Amended) The twist opening metallic container of Claim 18, wherein when the perishable solid or liquid stored within said metallic container is heated to a predetermined temperature, a downward force is applied to a shoulder of said skirt portion of said two-piece lid closure.

22. (Original) The twist opening metallic container of claim 18, wherein said closure ring expands when heated.

23. (Original) The twist opening metallic container of claim 18, wherein said non-metallic closure ring is comprised of at least one foam polyethylene, a polypropylene, a nylon, an acetal, a synthetic material and combinations therein.

24. (Currently Amended) The twist opening metallic container of Claim 18, further comprising a release tab functionally interconnected to a perimeter edge of said cap portion, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in said opposite direction, said release tab engages said upwardly oriented shoulder of said ~~a portion of said~~ skirt portion to facilitate opening of said cap portion by opening one end of said cap portion prior to an opposing end.